Renew and Rebuild: UMass Boston Plans for a Dynamic Future

By Leigh DuPuy

As the university eagerly anticipates the return of students for the fall semester, UMass Boston staff are organizing fun campus activities, rolling out a comprehensive parking and transportation plan, and embarking on a strategic master planning process that includes a proposal for a new, $84 million academic facility.

“We are thrilled to see our students come back to school and be engaged with life at UMass Boston once again,” says Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD. “The campus has such great energy and electricity when they return.”

Beginning September 5, the university is sponsoring activities that have become part of an exuberant UMass Boston tradition: opening events for students. Returning students can sample free food and drink, music, tour information stations and open houses, and explore employment opportunities and harbor cruises. Highlights of opening activities, themed “Let’s Get It Started,” include a “Taste of Boston” welcome reception, a comedy and hip-hop night in the Campus Center, and a UMass Boston night at the Museum of Science.

This year, administrators decided to expand activities through the month of September. Special events include a remembrance marking the fifth anniversary of September 11. Convocation 2006 celebrations, to be held on September 14, include the Chancellor’s convocation address, keynote speaker Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Margaret H. Marshall, and Fest-of-UIs games, barbecue, and music.

Rounding out the month, top musicians such as Bruce Cockburn, Eileen Ivers and Immigrant Soul, Richie Havens, Jennifer Kimball, and Jesse Winchester are slated to perform at WUMB’s 2006 annual Boston Folk Festival, September 16 and 17.

In addition to event planning, university officials led an intensive effort to provide additional parking and transportation options following the July closure of the original, interior garage.

For more than a year, Chancellor Collins and senior administrative staff worked with the Division of Capital Asset Management and the engineering firm of Simpson, Gumpertz & Heger to assess the garage and the substructure, which serves as the foundation of UMass Boston’s five-building campus.

Engineering reports found the foundation to be structurally sound, but that the rehabilitation of the garage and the substructure would cost more than $160 million. This estimate, combined with the continual loss of parking spaces and the need to reroute pedestrian and vehicle access, led to the chancellor’s decision to close the upper and lower levels.

University Grants and Contract Awards Top $38 Million Mark

By Ed Hayward

Grant and contract awards for UMass Boston research, training, and service projects increased for the fifth consecutive year, pushing total awards for the 2005-2006 fiscal year to $38.7 million, according to Valera Francis, director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP). The total awards marked a $3.2 million increase from the prior year. The university has set a goal of $50 million in annual awards by 2008.

“The faculty and professional staffs of the research institutes and centers have responded to the challenge to establish UMass Boston as an urban center for research that has a profound impact on the commonwealth and beyond,” said Provost Paul Fonteyn. “It is critical for the university to see continued growth in external funding given the increasingly competitive financial climate for higher education.”

Of the $38.7 million, research awards accounted for 60 percent, education and training awards for 36 percent, and service awards 4 percent.

External research funding from government agencies, foundations, corporations, and other sponsors pays for projects conducted by faculty and staff of the university, the colleges, and research institutes and centers. Grants cover a range of project costs, from graduate student support, equipment, and other operational expenses to support staff, travel, and administrative costs connected to the projects.

The $38.7 million in awards last fiscal year pushed the five-year average for annual awards to $13.4 million. In FY 2002, the university’s five-year average was just $19.9 million.

“The university has made improving research capacity and awards a priority for several years and we have put in place the infrastructure to support those goals,” said Richard Antonak, vice provost for research, whose position was created in 2004. “External

(Continued on page 5)
2006 Convocation: University Celebrates Year to Come

By Leigh DuPuy

Fittingly, as UMass Boston joins the nation in commemorating the signing of the United States Constitution, Massachusettts Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Margaret H. Marshall will be speaking about education and freedom as the keynote speaker for Convocation 2006, to be held on Thursday, September 21.

“Chief Justice Marshall is a respected jurist and a passionate advocate of democracy,” says Chancellor Michael F. Colins, MD. “We look forward to celebrating the start of another invigorating and exciting year at UMass Boston with this terrific program.”

The Honorable Margaret Marshall is the first woman to serve as chief justice in Massachusetts and the second woman appointed to serve as an associate justice.

A native of South Africa, Chief Justice Marshall fought apartheid before coming to the United States to pursue graduate studies in 1961. She earned her graduate and law degrees at Harvard and Yale universities, became an American citizen in 1978, and was appointed in 1994 to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, where she has been involved in landmark cases.

Her keynote will part of a schedule of events that blend tradition with Fest-of-Us fun. Convocation 2006 starts with a call to campus for faculty and staff, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. at the Campus Center terrace, giving colleagues a chance to gather together before the day’s events. Chancellor Collins welcomes the UMass Boston community and speaks about the upcoming academic year in his convocation address, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Campus Center Ballroom. Following the Chief Justice’s keynote address, “To Be Educated and Instructed in the Principles of Freedom,” at 10:00 a.m., the chancellor and Mrs. Collins, along with university colleagues, will host a barbecue for students at noon.

Music, entertainment, food, and fun of all kinds—everything from a bungee rock-climbing wall to spin-art Frisbees—will be part of Fest-of-U celebrations held on the Campus Center Lawn beginning at noon. Students will also get the chance to enter a free raffle for prizes that include two $500 UMass Boston Bookstore gift certificates, Red Sox tickets, and an iPod. Winners will be announced at Fest-of-U.

For more information and a full schedule of events, please visit www.umb.edu/convoca tion/.

Grants and Contracts Awards Tops $38 million

By Leigh DuPuy

“Boston is a great city and it requires a lot of learning,” says newcomer Patrick Day, who took the helm as vice chancellor for student affairs in July. For someone who relishes scholarship, this is hardly a chore. “I can’t wait to explore, learn the history, and get to know this diverse culture,” he says.

Day comes to UMass Boston with more than 13 years of experience serving diverse student populations at large and small institutions, such as Temple University, Johnson C. Smith University, and Texas Tech University.

What is first on his to-do list? He wants every student on campus to interact with the Division of Student Affairs at one time or another. “I want that interaction to influence our students’ sense of possibilities, their sense of self and their own strength, and lead to new developments,” says Day.

Providing transformative and relevant experiences are key ingredients in Day’s recipe for building a stronger student body. Well familiar with the dynamics of a large university with many nontraditional students, Day knows that people aren’t guaranteed to come out for an event “just because it’s interesting.” With competing schedules and responsibilities, students need a broader offering of services, he says. “We need the agility to deliver innovative programs that are applicable and relevant to our students’ experiences,” says Day.

Day wants to create broader programming and foster campus-wide support of student organizations and services. “We need to invest in our student leaders and organizations. They are the ‘lifeblood’ of what happens on campus,” he says.

He will encourage a wider range of faculty and staff to get involved in campus life, to attend events, and participate in community-wide service projects. He explains, “I want people to say ‘yes’ to participating in the lives of our students.” For Day, this collaboration not only leads to more effective and specialized services, but also integrates student feedback in such planning. “Students need to buy in and take ownership for what happens on campus,” he says.

Day’s litmus test for success is to evaluate how well a program or service addresses student needs. “We need to place students at the center of all decision making,” he says. “They should be at the center of all of our analysis—how we make our decision, how we determine what to do, what is right and wrong, and how we cast future plans.”

When not on campus, Day might be found home, wearing a pair of jeans, and watching a “Law & Order” marathon on TV or reading nonfiction on the history of higher education. A newcomer not for long, Day is clearly excited to learn about his community and ready for his new post leading students and colleagues.

awards require a coordinated approach where faculty members and administrators work together to achieve goals that serve both the research interests of the faculty member and the strategic priorities of the university.”

Francis, who joined the university in 2005, says, “As an office, we support the scholarly and creative activity of faculty and staff by providing them with the assistance necessary to identify and secure externally funded grants, contracts, and cooperative and technical assistance grants. Over the past year, ORSP has moved toward a more customer-service-oriented approach; hopefully this has contributed to the increase in the number of proposals being submitted to and ultimately awarded by funding agencies.” ORSP provides a range of services that include finding grants aligned with faculty specialties; searching for funding sources suited to the campus, its faculty and students; assistance with the application process; and assistance with the financial administration of award funding.

Among the hundreds of projects awarded funding last year, the focal points of research range from science education reform to tracking climate change to assisting individuals with disabilities succeed in the job market. Projects that received funding last year included:

• The Boston Science Partnership: Graduate College of Education professor Hannah Sevian, principal investigator, works with middle and high schools in the Boston Public Schools to develop programs that are taught in science, mathematics, and engineering. Funding comes from the National Science Foundation.


• Problems and Competence Under Age 5 and School Transitions: Psychology Professor Alice Carter, principal investigator. Funding comes from the National Institute of Health.

• A Longitudinal Study of Children with ASD (autism spectrum disorder) and Their Families During the Elementary School Years: Center for Social Development and Education Senior Research Associate Paul Benson, principal investigator. Funding comes from the U.S. Department of Education.

• Boston Area Advanced Technology Education Connections (BATEC): Deborah Boisvert, principal investigator, Division of Corporate, Continuing, and Distance Education. Funding comes from the National Science Foundation.

• The Boston Area Climate Experiment: Biology Professor Jeff Dukes, principal investigator.

Funding comes from the National Science Foundation.

• Smoking Timelines Amid Waning State Program Budgets: Center for Survey Research Associate Director Lois Biener, project investigator. Funding comes from the National Institutes of Health.

• The Community Technology Centers VISTA Project: College of Public and Community Service's Peter Miller, principal investigator. Funding comes from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

• Upward Bound: Associate Vice Provost of Academic Support Services Joan Becker, principal investigator. Funding comes from the U.S. Department of Education.

Student Affairs Sees a New Day at UMass Boston

By Leigh DuPuy

Patrick Day, vice chancellor for student affairs, arrived in July with ambitious plans to build a stronger student body. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Day knows that people aren’t guaranteed to come out for an event “just because it’s interesting.” With competing schedules and responsibilities, students need a broader offering of services, he says. “We need the agility to deliver innovative programs that are applicable and relevant to our students’ experiences,” says Day.
Researchers Help Cancer Survivors Regain Life’s Balance Through Fencing

By Lisa Gentes

Fencing and fitness is helping some local cancer survivors boost their health with a first-of-its-kind program sponsored in part by UMass Boston.

The pilot program involves the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, UMass Boston, and the Boston Fencing Club in Waltham. Cancer survivors, all patients at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, are getting a taste of fencing, learning physical fitness, and getting their minds and bodies back in gear through the new summer program.

About 11 cancer survivors ranging in age from 16 to 76 are taking part in the free, 12-week summer program, which wraps up in September.

“I wasn’t sure what the reaction would be to fencing,” said the program’s fitness instructor, Andrea Wyson. “It’s not a typical everyday sport,” she said.

“But once they have the equipment on, they love it, they have a

UMass Boston’s Bruce Bailey, Andrea Wyson, and Kyle McNinis (not pictured) are running a pilot program with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Boston Fencing Club in Waltham to help cancer survivors improve physical fitness and mental well-being through fencing. (Photo by Harry Brett)

 Kurdistan

The instructor said she hopes her students will improve their physical fitness: “That’s our main goal,” she said. The program boosts their self-esteem and confidence, she said, and helps improve their quality of life.

The participants are getting the chance to meet others who are battling and surviving cancer, she said. The new partnership program allows them to share their experiences and get to know each other, while testing their limits and boundaries physically, she said.

“A lot of them had lost a great deal of balance and coordination… It’s really nice of them to see what they can do,” Wyson said. “I think anytime you learn something new, or discover a new ability, I think there’s a self-esteem piece with that.”

Kyle McNinis, professor and chair of the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences and a health and fitness expert, along with Eva Guinan, clinician and researcher at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, created the idea for the fitness and fencing program. Guinan had “the idea of doing a fitness program with cancer survivors,” and she wanted to “get someone who knew exercise,” said Bruce Bailey, assistant professor of exercise physiology at UMass Boston.

“Eva’s component was the fencing,” he said. “It’s a unique way of engaging people in physical activity.”

Bailey coordinates the UMass Boston end of the program, with Wyson the on-site instructor and Guinan coordinating Dana-Farber’s end. The aim is to improve fitness in survivors, to increase muscle strength and quality of life, he said.

The program is engaging and fun and something the survivors can do together as recreation, he said. Participants are planning on bringing the program back for a fall session, he said.

Umass Boston Staffers Pull Together Through Sudden Losses

By Anne-Marie Kent

UMass Boston recently lost three beloved employees: Joseph Coppola in the Facilities Services Department, Ed Gagnon in the Customer Service Center, and James Rakauskas in the Property Department. All served the university in critical ways and inspired coworkers and close-knit friends to pull together as a family.

It was on June 13 when Gagnon lost his months-long battle with cancer. At the onset of his ordeal in July of 2005, when he first complained of headaches, co-worker Marcia Porro urged him to seek medical attention. Gagnon continued to work while undergoing treatment for what was diagnosed as a brain tumor.

Christmas of 2005, he was unable to continue working.

“Ed, Marcia, and I had worked together for eight years and it was devastating for all of us to watch him go through what he went through,” said Linda O’Brien, director of the Customer Service Center. “We lived through all the happy and sad times with Ed, and watched him raise his three children.”

As his sickness progressed, coworkers in Customer Service arranged for a local restaurant to deliver dinner to his home Friday nights. “That was his night with his daughter Kerry to watch a movie together,” explained O’Brien.

The Customer Service team visited Gagnon in the hospital. “He was in a great deal of pain and heavily medicated, but he knew we were there,” said O’Brien. “I told him we brought him a lobster salad sandwich (his favorite) and he smiled.” Days later, he died.

“At Ed’s wake, we gave his family a donation collected from a great many good friends and from people who had spoken with him only by phone,” said O’Brien. “He made people feel like he was personally taking care of their requests; he went beyond the expectations of his job to ensure they received great customer service.”

Barely a month later, on Saturday, July 2, the university suffered another loss with the death of Jim Rakauskas. A Vietnam-era veteran of the U.S. Navy and Army, Rakauskas came to UMass Boston in 1996 when he matriculated as an undergraduate student in the Veterans Upward Bound Program. A voracious reader, Rakauskas graduated with a B.A. and M.A. in American Studies and continued to take classes in German language and history while working full-time.

“Jim was a serious, life-long student who loved learning. He was a brilliant and analytical thinker yet was also a down-to-earth, regular guy,” said friend Shauna Lee Manning. Just days later, on July 9, plumb- ing shop supervisor Joseph Coppola passed away unexpectedly.

Deputy Director of Facilities Administration Denise Duggan recalled, “He was a great guy. He would always help anybody if they needed help with a job. He was very close with Rick Coppola [no relation].”

According to Duggan, the two men were fishing together with their families on a boat off the coast of Marshfield on the day Coppola suffered a massive stroke.

“It was heartbreaking for all of us,” said Duggan. “The only consolation is that he was doing what he loved and he was with his family and friends, but still it’s a tremendous loss.”

Duggan reported that a large number of current and former Facilities staff members showed an outpouring of support at the funeral, and presented a donation to Coppola’s family on behalf of his UMass Boston “family.”
By Leigh DuPuy

A storied editor and award-winning author, Askold Melnyczuk is well-versed in the intricacies of the publishing world. But don’t look for his latest work on Amazon.com. Melnyczuk has purposely avoided the commercialism of publishing to create a small press that brings limited-edition books to an intimate circle of readers.

With the help of UMass Boston students, Melnyczuk has published eight titles under Arrowsmith Press, a venture named after the late William Arrowsmith, a renowned classics scholar, literary and film critic. Arrowsmith specializes in pairing original works, previously unpublished as books, with critical essays by veteran and novice writers and cover designs featuring local artists.

The project began informally in April 2005 when Melnyczuk offered to help fellow writer Oksana Zabuzhko, who did not have a published work in English to share with colleagues at an International PEN Conference in New York. “I offered to translate her short story ‘Girls’ and produce it as a book,” said Melnyczuk. He worked with English undergraduates Erica Mena and Amber Johns to copy-edit and typeset the book and with the staff at Central Reprographics to publish 150 copies to sell and distribute.

From there, the idea blossomed into a number of chapbooks, including Bula MaterilSmasher or Carrying Life by Maureen McLane, Divided Mind by George Scalabba, and The Jinn and Other Poems by Amir Ez-Zein.

Arrowsmith publishes 150 limited regular and deluxe editions for each work. “It’s book production in miniature,” says Melnyczuk. The group sells copies through direct-mail marketing to a database that includes friends of the writers and about 1,000 editorial contacts that Melnyczuk has developed over the years. They also sell them at book parties, the last one held recently at Lane Duck Books in Cambridge.

Selling regular editions at $10.00 a copy, Melnyczuk and Arrowsmith staff seek to spread the word about their writers and to cover production costs. Frequently, the books have led their writers to develop new works, with many drawing interest from mainstream publishers.

Arrowsmith has also excelled in pairing well-known writers with up-and-comers. Melnyczuk worked with Maniop Wil, an undergraduate at UMass Boston and former Sudanese refugee, to publish his story “Animals and Warwmare,” printing it with a piece by Lawrence Ferlinghetti, famed poet and publisher of City Lights Books.

A future Arrowsmith chapbook will feature work by one of America’s leading dissident Fathers Daniel Berrigan and will be accompanied by essays by well-known writers Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, and Fanny Howe, and essays by students. Another will feature a work by Donald Hall, a former poet laureate of New Hampshire.

Melnyczuk’s students have been a central part of Arrowsmith’s development. Mena, who has worked on the project since its inception, will publish her translations of a Puerto Rican poet and student Jason Vedore is an intern doing an independent study on publishing this semester. Catherine Parnell, an adjunct creative writing faculty member, will begin in the fall as executive editor.

In addition to his Arrowsmith work, Melnyczuk is teaching a graduate class on writing memoirs this fall, will see the publication of his latest work, House of Widows, in September 2007, and is working on several writing projects.

Despite his schedule, Melnyczuk relishes his return to the world of bookmaking. “I found that I didn’t miss editing,” said Melnyczuk, who edited the highly regarded literary journal AGNI for 30 years, “but I did miss working with writers and artists on an intimate scale—it’s wonderful to get behind a book that you love and then help readers discover the work.”
of the original, interior garage. Chancellor Collins and university officials declared a $25 million dollar pledge to ensure the security of the substructure and begin initial plans to build a new academic facility.

“It wasn’t responsible to spend huge funds in the hopes of returning the garage to its 1970s glory,” says Chancellor Collins. Instead, the university plans to devote funds to rebuilding the campus, something long overdue, he says. These efforts are part of a new master planning effort to guide UMass Boston in its future endeavors with academic space, transportation needs, and how the campus can be more physically linked to the local community, to name a few areas for discussion.

Officials have hired an architectural firm to draft a long-term outline of new academic facilities and parking options. “Planning for a new academic facility is a critical step in rebuilding and revamping the UMass Boston campus,” says Chancellor Collins.

Since the garage closure, parking has been a top priority for university officials. “I am happy to report that by the start of the fall semester our on-campus parking capacity will be only slightly shy, about 125 spaces, of our capacity last May,” he says. To create more parking for the community, campus officials created six new parking lots, including a students-only designated lot in the South Lot. They also have been working with neighborhood groups, local officials, and vendors to develop additional parking options throughout the Columbia Point area.

In addition, the university has a new partnership with the carpooling initiative MassRIDES, which can help people establish a vaanp or carpool arrangement, and installed additional bike racks throughout campus. “Providing assistance to students, staffs, and visitors coming to campus is a top priority,” says Chancellor Collins of the transition. “Change is exciting and it will lead to a brighter future for our great campus.”

For more information about the latest in campus news and activities, please visit www.umb.edu.

Scenes of Summer at UMass Boston’s Busy Campus

By Leigh DuPuy

Think UMass Boston was a sleepy place to be this summer? Think again. The campus was bustling under the bright sun with a bevy of campers, international students and novice sailors, Boston kids working on campus, and a delegation of Iraqis planning a future conference here.

“UMass Boston hosts many summer youth programs, but Camp Shriver’s presence on campus has been a real inspiration to us all,” said UMass Boston Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, of the inclusive program that offered swimming, basketball, soccer, and many other camp activities to children with and without special needs.

More than 65 kids, ages 9-12 and hailing from Brockton, Hyde Park, Dorchester, and Cambridge, spent two weeks at the one-of-a-kind Camp Shriver, held on campus for the first time this July. Campers, counselors, and staff made occasional off-campus field trips, including a private tour of Fenway Park and a harbor cruise aboard the UMass Boston research vessel Columbia Point. The camp included visits by U.S. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and Special Olympics Chairman Tim Shriver and concluded with an awards presentation hosted by WRZ radio’s Gil Santos on July 28.

The camp was developed and organized by director Gary N. Siperstein and his staff at the Center for Social Development and Education, who also conducted a scientific evaluation of the camp that will inform their future research on societal inclusion of people with disabilities.

The university was also host to the 15th annual Courageous Sailing, which were working throughout campus as part of the Mayor’s Summer Job Program. For the second year in a row on campus, Boston high school students worked for seven weeks gaining valuable work experience in areas throughout the university. From July 10 through August 25, the interns contributed at the Early Learning Center, the Gerontology Institute, the Division of Marine Operations, and the Healey Library.

The summer interns have also taken advantage of career services leadership development offerings and mentoring workshops created by the university. “This is a great way to invest in tomorrow’s workforce,” says Denise McNair, business manager for the Department of Human Resources. “Teenagers stay busy and productive throughout the summer, while also learning the importance of staying in school and going on to college.”

Boston’s youth weren’t the only ones learning hands-on new skills on campus. The Division of Marine Operations, in partnership with Athletics, has been teaching summer and special program students how to sail. Twice a week, for about five or six weeks, instructors took students out on the water in Cape Cod Merceries to give them introductory lessons and an overview of how sailing works. This year the group included international students from Chukyo University.

“It is great way to help kids build confidence in their social skills,” said Jason LeBlanc, sailing program manager. “Some of these students were really quiet, but you get them three to a boat, in a small space, and they talk more, they pick up new language skills, and learn how to do something completely new. Their smiles are unbelievable.”

They join the veteran program Courageous Sailing, hosted by UMass Boston, for six weeks each summer since 2003. “These are really teaching and learning programs,” says LeBlanc. “It’s a great way to expand our youth outreach.”

UMass Boston also recently extended their outreach to a group of Iraqi professors, who visited campus on July 11 to discuss potential partnerships with Iraqi universities. Led by Deputy Minister for Scientific Affairs Berwam M. Khalilany of Iraq’s Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the seven representatives from the University of Baghdad planned the 2007 conference “Rebuilding Sustainable Communities in Iraq” with College of Community and Public Service Director Richard Brown.

“It is very important for people to know what Iraq needs and how the country must be rebuilt,” said Khalilany. “The rehabilita-

September 2006 ■ The University Reporter ■ 5

Top left: Sneha Mathew, counselor Zipporah Deele, and fauna Jean-Louis smile together at the two-week Camp Shriver, an inclusive summer program for children with and without intellectual disabilities. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Mid-left: International students from Chukyo University took to the bay with the Division of Marine Operations sailing instructor Michael Magni and Chukyo faculty member Richard Morrison. (Photo by Jason LeBlanc)

Top right: Volunteer Liz Maxey, daughter of faculty member Dennis Maxey, helps Jessica Merica in the pool. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Lower right: U.S. Senator Kennedy and Tim Shriver were on hand for the Camp Shriver kickoff, held on July 17. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Bottom: A delegation of Iraqis meet with UMass Boston officials during their July visit. (Photo by Harry Brett)
In July, Elsa Auerbach, professor of English, led a two-day workshop on second-language teaching strategies at the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont.

On July 16, Charles Condude, professor of political science and senior fellow at the Center for Democracy and Development, received an award from Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Atlantic Council of Costa at the Atlantic Council Conference on Management in South East Asia. He presented the conference's major paper “American Policy and Crisis Management” and served as chair of three panels.

Kevin Dolan, director of enterprise computing, and Arif Belvehlan, senior associate registrar, presented a case study on UMass Boston’s upgrade of its degree audit system and its effect on faculty, student, and IT staff at the 2006 Higher Education Conference held at the Miami University of Ohio Degree Audit Reporting System Users Conference, held on June 21.

Jeff Dukes, assistant professor of biology, presented an invited talk at the American Society of Plant Biologists Needs for Invasive Species Management in a Changing Climate, held in Washington, D.C., on June 6.

This summer, James Green, CPCS and Labor Resource Center professor, spoke at the Old Labor Hall in Barre, VT at an event sponsored by the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, and at Modern Times Book Store in San Francisco as part of “Labor Fest.”

Stephanic Kamath, assistant professor of English, read the paper “John Lydgate and the Curse of Genius” at the International Congress of the New Chaucer Society, held in July.

Enrico Marcelli, assistant professor of economics, participated in a workshop on the Cultural Crossroads of Gender, Modern Art, and Modern Culture” at the International Conference on Arts in Society, held at the University of Massachusetts, held on July 6.

In July, Nina M. Silverston, associate professor of gynecology, presented “Transportation Options for People with Dementia” as a panel for the Administration on Aging Alzheimer’s Disease Demonstration Grants to States Teleconference. She also presented “ElDERly Behind the Wheel: Emerging Issues in Driver Safety” at the Women in Government 8th Annual Eastern Regional Conference.

In June, Judith Smith, professor of American studies, presented a featured lecture and a teacher’s workshop on “Immigrant Families and Popular Culture” as part of the Department of Education Teaching American History Professional Development Project for high school teachers in the Fall River and New Bedford public schools.

David Terkla, economics and EEOs professor, presented findings from the recently completed study “An Assessment of the Coastal and Marine Economies of Massachusett,” co-authored with Lawrence Jack Wiggan, Dan Hellin, Dan Georgianna, Rebecca Loveand, and Sasha Proshina, for the Environmental Business Council in Boston on June 13.

Saman Movahed, professor and chair of sociology, presented an invited lecture with Miriam Ricci “The Cultural Narratives of Immigration and the Individual Story” at the “Narrative Matters: The Storied Nature of Human Experience” annual meeting, held at Acadia University on May 27.

Mary Oleksiakiewicz, assistant professor of music, presented the paper “Revisiting the Recent Past: Iconography, Anecdotes, and the Music of Eighteenth-Century Berlin” at the 12th Interdisciplinary, Numeracy, and Language: Policy, Practice and Research with Open University Press.

Professor Susan Opotow of the Urban and Housing Resourc- es presented the paper “Moral Inclusion and Post War Reconstruction” at the 11th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Justice Research, held at Humboldt University in August.

In June, Laurel E. Redwin, associate professor of nursing, presented “Patients Centered Care: The Patients Perspective” as the Robert W. Carey MD Endowed Lecture at Massachusetts General Hospital. She also presented two posters with colleagues at the ONS Annual Congress 2006 and the Health Annual Research Meeting, and attended the 2006 Health Disparities Research Methods Training Symposium and 2006 Cancer Health Disparities Summit 2006.

American studies professor Lois Rudnick presented a paper for the Conference on Women “The Cultural Crossroads of Gender, Modern Art, and Modern Culture” at the International Conference on Arts in Society, held at the University of Massachusetts, held on August 6.


Vivian Zamel, professor of English, gave the plenary address and conducted a daylong workshop on “Challenges and Possibilities for Learn- ers across the curriculum at Central Piedmont Community College in North Carolina.”

Jalal Alamigui, assistant professor of political science, published the article “The Challenge of Democratic Consolidation in Bangladesh” in the Journal of Social Studies and has been commissioned to write an article on the 2007 elections in Bangladesh for the Journal of Democracy.


The article “Is There Anything About ‘Post-Postmodernist Internationalism’” by associate professor of English Matthew Brown was published in The Irish Review.

Yung-Ping Chen, the Frank J. Mann- ington Emeritus’s Scholar Chair in Chinese Art and Culture, published two papers at the International Conference on Social Sciences, two brief papers at the Hawaijai Employers Council, and the paper “Financing Longevity Risks” at the 4th Congress of the European Union Geriatric Medicine Society, held in Geneva.


Blind Spot, a new book of poetry by CPCS faculty member Susan Eisen- berg, was published in 2006 by Buckwa- ter Press. The work, which explores historical annalyses and denials, was launched at a book party on September 30 at Forsyth Chapel.

Linda Huang, assistant professor of biology, was senior author for the article “Alpha-Tocopherol P65 Mutates the Activity of Membrane-Associated Proteins in Saccharomyces cerevisiae,” published in the Journal of Biological Chemistry. UMass Boston student Hugh Doherty is a co-author. The paper began as a collaboration with Harvard Medical School and the university’s partnership with Dana- Farber/Harvard Cancer Center.

The article “Republican Centrists: Crises of American Exceptionalism and the Naming of a Mobile Nation,” by Anthony Kingman, an EEOs faculty member, was published in Early American Studies.


EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES, AND RECORDINGS

Perpetual Care, an exhibit explor- ing chronic illness through pho- tographs of medication bottles by CPCS faculty member Susan Eisenberg, is being exhibited at the West End Branch of the Boston Public Library from September 5 through 23.

A plywood sculpture by art professor Erik Levine, “Undefiled,” from 1989, was acquired by the Museum of Fine Arts Boston for their permanent collection.

Mark Pawlak, director of Academic Support Programs, read from his new poetry collection as part of the Newton Free Library Poetry Series on September 12.

GRANTS, RESEARCH, AND PROJECTS

On June 8, the Labor Resource Center released the report sharing “The Costs, Reaping the Benefits: Paid Family and Medical Leave in Massachu- setts,” written by Randy Albdella of the Economics Department and Alan Clayton-Mathews of the De- partment of Sociology. The report called on a bill that would establish a paid family and medical leave pro- gram in Massachusetts and several media outlets, including WRUR-FM and Time magazine, quoted Albdella on the report.

Jon Allen, horticulturist in the Biol- ogy Department, was a judge for the Mayor’s Garden Contest on August 1.

The COCP Columbia Point Charrette held a community planning meeting at the Community Center at Harbor Point to discuss plans for Mount Ver- non Street. The charrette was made possible by the Community Outreach Partnership Center grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, inclined to faculty members Joan Arches and Robin Beattie.
Robert Chen, EEOs professor, is the principal investigator on a $119,000 UMass President’s Merit Award for the project “Center for Coastal Environmental Sensing Networks.” The center will focus on the creation and testing of new environmental sensors and the development of smart sensor networks.

Susan Haussler, associate professor of nursing, served on the Council for International Exchange of Scholars Fulbright Peer Review Committee in August.

Ellen Hume, director of the Center on Media and Society in the McCormack Graduate School, received a $3,070 grant from the Ford Foundation to develop an ethnic media student internship program and ethnic news wire. The project will launch in January, with students working for ethnic news organizations in the greater Boston area with coaching from journalism professionals. In July, the center convened local ethnic media to participate in the first ethnic “Pulitzer Prizes.”

Enrico Marcelli, assistant professor of economics, received a $6,000 grant from the Center for Community Change to write an article estimating the impact of former unauthorized Mexican immigrants on total employment and earnings outcomes in California.

By Paul Atwood and T. Michael Sullivan

Teachers, writers, and activists spent a busy June on campus examining conflict and war at two annual institutes sponsored by the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences.

For the fourteenth year, the center sponsored its annual institute for area high school teachers on war and its far-reaching effects. This year, the institute focused primarily on the war in Iraq with comparisons to the war in Vietnam, for instructors and on his new book Death in the Haymarket for CIWAN's 25th. "Book TV" followed his participation in the "Printers Row" Book Festival, held on June 9.

The university was sad to learn of the deaths of several faculty and staff members since May. They include: Irving H. Bartlett, Joseph Coppolla, Edward F. Gagnon, Nicholas Gragg, Richard A. Hogarty, James Rakauskas, and Daisy Tagliacozzo.

The University of Massachusetts Boston Alumni Association made a donation to The Children of Paul H. Barry Memorial Fund in honor of alumni and State Trooper Paul F. Barry. Trooper Barry died in an automobile accident on June 13. A native of Dorchester, Trooper Barry was survived by his wife, Maryellen, and their seven children.

Joiner Center’s Annual Summer Institutes Examine Conflict Through Teaching and Writing

Jeff Dukes, assistant professor of biology, received a $422,608 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Institute for Climate Change Research to study “Qinetiq Journal of New-”ect.”The Boston-area Climate Experi- ment: A Gradient-Based Approach for Characterizing Ecosystem Responses to Warming and Precipitation.”

Mary Oleskiewicz, assistant professor of music, has been chosen as a 2006- 07 fellow at the Alexander Humboldt Foundation. This one-year fellowship will support a stay in Germany to produce a monograph on the 18th-century flutist and theorist Johann Joachim Quantz and his career at the Dresden and Berlin courts.

Wichan Rojanawon of the Geor- donal Institute received a 100,000,000th anniversary endowed fellowship from the Osher Foundation to support the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Stephen W. Silliman, assistant professor of archaeology, received a $114,000 National Science Founda- tion grant to fund his ongoing archaeological research project in Connecticut on Native American responses to colonialism.

Nina M. Silverstein, associate profes- sor of geontology, is the co-investiga- tor on the grant project “Fitness to Drive in Early Stage Dementia: An Instrumented Vehicle Study,” awarded by the University of Michigan Transpor- tation Research Institute.

The Center for Democracy and Development at the McCormack Graduate School received two new grants from the U.S. Department of State. The Mock Trial Project for China, now in its fifth year, demonstrates American legal principles to Chinese judges and law students in Western China through mock trials that are presented by McCormack- settos judges and involve Chinese law students who serve as jurors. The second funded project is the “Building a Responsible, Effective Liberian Media,” an exchange program for journalists, editors, educators, and media business managers.

An article by Paul Nestor, associate professor of psychology, was cited as one of the top 30 articles downloaded in 2006 from the American Psycho- logical Association and the Online Pubs of NPsycho. The article “Neuro- psychological Correlates of Diffusion Tensor Imaging in Schizophrenia” was downloaded 2,238 times.

Laurie L. Radwin, associate professor of nursing, was selected via competitive review to attend the Osher Nursing Society’s first ONS Foundation Research Institute in October 2006.

On July 10, a group of Boston high school teens attended a workshop on media literacy, organized and taught by Ellen Hume, director of the Center on Media and Society. Students from the Trinity Education for Excellence Program joined peer leaders from GR2L radio and Carole Remick’s Dow Jones summer newspaper internship.

The university was sad to learn of the deaths of several faculty and staff members since May. They include: Irving H. Bartlett, Joseph Coppolla, Edward F. Gagnon, Nicholas Gragg, Richard A. Hogarty, James Rakauskas, and Daisy Tagliacozzo.

The University of Massachusetts Boston Alumni Association made a donation to The Children of Paul H. Barry Memorial Fund in honor of alumni and State Trooper Paul F. Barry. Trooper Barry died in an automobile accident on June 13. A native of Dorchester, Trooper Barry was survived by his wife, Maryellen, and their seven children.

The Center for Social Policy (CSP) at the McCormack Graduate School for Policy Studies has partnered with the Citizens Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA) to launch the “2006 Massachusetts Gubernatorial Candidates Website on Housing, Homelessness, and Disabilities.” The website tracks candidates’ prepared state- ments on housing and homeless- ness, as well as statements made in the press on these issues. It also features the full transcript from the CHAPA-led forum on these issues, held at Faneuil Hall on June 22. The site will be easily searchable by topic, candidate, or more specific information, and will be a resource for voters and advocates alike. The target launch date for the website is September 13 and represents a partnership with leading housing and home- lesso n organiz ation s. See www. m c c o r m a c k.umb.edu/csp.

Support the New Empower Disabled Fund

This September, you can help to support UMass Boston’s Empower Disabled Fund (EDF), a nonprofit charitable fund es- tablished to help students with disabilities become more inde- pendent and achieve their goals, and possibly win a new car. To raise funds, EDF is hold- ing a raffle for a new 2006 Toyota Corolla, donata by Robert Boc at the Expressway Motors in Dorchester. Tickets are $50 and the winning number will be announced at a drawing on September 20. The winner will be responsible for tax, title, and fees.

Want to help out? To pur- chase a ticket or for more in- formation, please e-mail Sergio. Goncalves@umb.edu or Kerri. Cleghorn@umb.edu. For more information, please visit www. EmpowerDisabledFund.umb. edu.
The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of University Communications and Community Relations. All events are open to the public and free, unless otherwise noted. From off-campus, dial (617) 253-1000 and the last five digits listed below each event.

Submit October calendar listings by Thursday, September 14 to umb.edu/news/calendar/.

Monday 4

Labor Day University closed.

Tuesday 5

Classes begin.

Let’s Get It Started 2006
8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Campus Center. Opening activities, including information stations (campus-wide), free food; JAM’N 94.5 Campus Invasion Tour, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; Treasure Hunters, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.; and Taste of Boston Welcome Reception, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. See posters for full schedule or contact: 7-6020.

Mindfulness Meditation Group
2:30 – 3:00 p.m., Thursdays, McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel, 3rd fl. Join the mindfulness meditation group sponsored by University Health Services. No prior experience with meditation is required. Contact: 7-5624 or lauren.mayhew@umb.edu.

Wednesday 6

Let’s Get It Started 2006
8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Campus Center. Opening activities, including information stations; free food; student engagement showcase, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; free sail with the sailing program, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; graduate student Welcome Reception, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.; comedy night and hip-hop after party, 7:00 – 12:00 a.m. See posters for full schedule or contact: 7-6020.

Friday 8

Let’s Get It Started 2006
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., campus-wide. Opening activities including information stations; Good Neighbor Day, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Beacons on the Plaza, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Beacon Fitness Open House, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; UMass Boston Night at the Museum of Science, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. See posters for full schedule or contact: 7-6020.

Monday 11

Let’s Get It Started 2006
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., campus-wide. Opening activities, including information stations; free food; student employment showcase, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; give a free sail with the sailing program, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; graduate student Welcome Reception, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.; comedy night and hip-hop after party, 7:00 – 12:00 a.m. See posters for full schedule or contact: 7-6020.

Mindfulness Meditation Group
2:30 – 3:00 p.m., Thursdays, McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel, 3rd fl. Join the mindfulness meditation group sponsored by University Health Services. No prior experience with meditation is required. Contact: 7-5624 or lauren.mayhew@umb.edu.

Let’s Get It Started 2006
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., campus-wide. Opening activities, including information stations; free food; student engagement showcase, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; give a free sail with the sailing program, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; graduate student Welcome Reception, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.; comedy night and hip-hop after party, 7:00 – 12:00 a.m. See posters for full schedule or contact: 7-6020.

Thursday 7

Let’s Get It Started 2006
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., campus-wide. Opening activities, including information stations; free food; student employment showcase, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; give a free sail with the sailing program, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; graduate student Welcome Reception, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.; comedy night and hip-hop after party, 7:00 – 12:00 a.m. See posters for full schedule or contact: 7-6020.

Mindfulness Meditation Group
2:30 – 3:00 p.m., Thursdays, McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel, 3rd fl. Join the mindfulness meditation group sponsored by University Health Services. No prior experience with meditation is required. Contact: 7-5624 or lauren.mayhew@umb.edu.

Let’s Get It Started 2006
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., campus-wide. Opening activities, including information stations; free food; student employment showcase, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; give a free sail with the sailing program, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; graduate student Welcome Reception, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.; comedy night and hip-hop after party, 7:00 – 12:00 a.m. See posters for full schedule or contact: 7-6020.

Mindfulness Meditation Group
2:30 – 3:00 p.m., Thursdays, McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel, 3rd fl. Join the mindfulness meditation group sponsored by University Health Services. No prior experience with meditation is required. Contact: 7-5624 or lauren.mayhew@umb.edu.

Let’s Get It Started 2006
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., campus-wide. Opening activities, including information stations; free food; student employment showcase, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; give a free sail with the sailing program, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; graduate student Welcome Reception, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.; comedy night and hip-hop after party, 7:00 – 12:00 a.m. See posters for full schedule or contact: 7-6020.